

Claims:

1. A novel oleanane triterpenoid oligoglycoside of formula 1 of the accompanying drawing (trivially called carniculatonin) wherein R_1 is selected from the group comprising of -OH, -OAc and =O; and R_2 is a carbohydrate moiety.
2. A compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein R_1 can have α and β configuration.
3. A compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein the carbohydrate is a polysaccharide with monosaccharide having D or L rotation and intersugar linkages have α and β configuration.
4. A compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein the carbohydrate is linked to an aglycone at position 3 and has β configuration.
5. A compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein the carbohydrate moiety comprises of glucose, rhamnose and glucuronic acid.
6. A claim as claimed in claim 1, wherein R_1 is OH and R_2 is


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      Gluc — Gluc —
      |         |
      Rha       Gluc A
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      Rha
          
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7. A compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein $C_{13} - C_{28}$ oxydo ring has β configuration.
8. A compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein the compound inhibits the growth of the opportunistic fungi *candida sp.* and *Cryptococcus neoformans* in disc diffusion assays.
9. A compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein the compound inhibits growth of *Microsporum gypseum*, *Trichophyton mentagrophytes*, *T. tonsurans* and *T. violaceum*.

10. A compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein the compound inhibits growth of *Aspergillus fresenii* and *A. niger*.
11. A compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein the compound is used for the treatment of candidiasis, cryptococcosis, epidermal infections and systemic infections.
12. A compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein the compound is used as a food preservative.
13. A process for the isolation of the compound oleanane triterpenoid oligoglycoside (trivially called corniculatonin) of formula 1 of the accompanying drawing, said process comprising contacting the plant parts of *Aegiceras corniculatum* with an organic solvent to obtain an extract; fractionating the extract by known methods; and isolating the compound from the fractionated extract by known methods.
14. A process for the preparation oleanane triterpenoid oligoglycoside, said process comprising:
- (i) collecting and drying the plant parts of *Aegiceras corniculatum*;
 - (ii) immersing the plant parts in an organic polar solvent for a week;
 - (iii) filtering the extract to obtain a filtrate;
 - (iv) concentrating the filtrate by known methods;
 - (v) treating the concentrate with polar solvents in increasing order of polarity to obtain different layers; and
 - (vi) subjecting the thus obtained layers to fractionation to get the compound.
15. A process as claimed in claim 13, wherein the organic solvent is selected from the group comprising of ethyl acetate, methanol, heptane, hexane, isoocatne, acetone, benzene, toluene, diethyl ether, methylene chloride, chloroform, butanol, ethanol, isopropanol, 1,2 dichloroethane and mixtures thereof.
16. A process as claimed in claim 13, wherein the solvents are selected from the

group comprising of ethyl acetate and methanol.

17. A process as claimed in claim 13, wherein the plant parts are selected from the group comprising of leaves, stems, branches and roots.
18. A process as claimed in claim 13, wherein the fractionation is performed by column chromatography.
19. A process as claimed in claim 17, wherein the column chromatography is performed by XAD-2, Sephadex LH₂₀ and silica gel column chromatography.
20. A process as claimed in claim 13, wherein the solvents used for eluting are selected from the group comprising of heptane, methanol, dichloromethane, ethyl acetate, hexane, isooctane, chloroform, 1,2 dichloroethane, benzene, toluene, isopropanol, butanol, water, ethanol, diethyl ether and mixtures thereof. Particularly preferred eluents are chloroform, methanol and mixtures thereof.
21. A composition having an effective amount of the compound oleanane triterpenoid oligoglycoside of formula 1 of the accompanying drawing, optionally along with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
22. A composition as claimed in claim 20, wherein the composition inhibits the growth of the opportunistic fungi *candida sp.* and *Cryptococcus neoformans* in disc diffusion assays.
23. A composition as claimed in claim 20, wherein the composition inhibits growth of *Microsporum gypseum*, *Trichophyton mentagrophytes*, *T. tonsurans* and *T. violaceum*.
24. A composition as claimed in claim 20, wherein the composition inhibits growth of *Aspergillus fresenii* and *A. niger*.

25. A composition as claimed in claim 20, wherein the composition is used for the treatment of candidiasis, cryptococcosis, epidermal infections and systemic infections.
26. A composition as claimed in claim 20, wherein the composition is used as a food preservative.
27. A composition as claimed in claim 20, wherein the composition is in the form of cream, tablets, syrup, gel, capsules and powder etc.
28. A method of treating fungal infections in mammals by administering an effective amount of compound oleanane triterpenoid oligoglycoside of formula 1 of the accompanying drawing or the extract obtained from the mangrove plant *Aegiceras corniculatu*.
29. A method as claimed in claim 27, wherein 6.25 μ g to 50 μ g/ml of the compound or the extract is administered to the subject.
30. A method as claimed in claim 27, wherein the subject is a human being.
31. Use of the compound oleanane triterpenoid oligoglycoside of formula 1 of the accompanying drawing (trivially called carniculatonin) or the extract obtained from the mangrove plant *Aegiceras corniculatu* for the treatment of candidiasis, cryptococcosis, epidermal infections and systemic infections.
32. Use of the compound oleanane triterpenoid oligoglycoside of formula 1 of the accompanying drawings (trivially called carniculatonin) or the extract obtained from the mangrove plant *Aegiceras corniculatu* as a food preservative.

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